

EXMA-28948

Chief of Station, Vienna
Attn: []
Chief of Base, Munich

23 September 1957

INFO: EE

Operational/GRARB

Memo for the Record

REFERENCE: EXMA-28107, 5 August 1957

Transmitted herewith is a report on VOB-ARB Discussions of
5 and 6 August 1957 at VOB.

Attachment: A/S

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3 - VOB w/2 atts
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MEMO FOR THE RECORD

23 September 1957

SUBJECT: VOB-ARB Discussions of 5 and 6 August 1957.

1. While at VOB, [] prepared an ARB Unconventional Warfare assets map for VOB's reference and retention. [] and [] briefed [] a connection with the map which shows all ARB's agents, caches and DZ/LTs. [] said he would write a dispatch containing his recommendations for ARB's future activities and [] requested it be sent to VOB for concurrence. (Done - See EGMA-28472, 28 August 1957.)

2. [] requested ARB to complete Agent Personal Data forms soon on all ARB agents and to send them to VOB for inclusion in their files. Since this form contains much identifying information on the agent, [] is to send the info on two separate forms for each agent. ARB will provide a copy for both VOB and ARB files.

3. [] brought up the GRLAUNCH project and specifically, GRLAUNCH-1's [] recent statement, made on 27 July, that he planned to make "other arrangements" if case officer continued to restrict his activities. [] said GRLAUNCH-1 either did not know or did not say what "other arrangements" he had in mind, but it was thought GRLAUNCH-1's only hope of support for his Unconventional Warfare Activities other than us would be UPSWING. It was agreed [] should maintain the present restrictive policy line with GRLAUNCH-1 and that GRLAUNCH-1 would probably not translate his comments into definite action. [] offered the thought that Headquarters would probably be happy to see the GRLAUNCH project fold since it has appeared doubtful at times whether the equity we possess in the form of two trained W/T operators compensates for GRLAUNCH-1's constant pressure for more activity and the security disadvantage of his continued contacts with former active sub-agents. (On 21 August, [] repeated our general policies to GRLAUNCH-1 which he seemed to accept, making no further reference to "other arrangements".)

4. [] told [] of the unsatisfactory results of the July W/T Field Test of GRLAUNCH-2 [] and GRLAUNCH-A/9 [] said he planned to run another test for these two W/T operators in October. The test will be held in the same general area NE of Innsbruck and case officer will bring with him two W/T sets to be cached in that area.

5. The problem of ARB's case officers driving operational vehicles in Austria with US Army license plates was discussed. [] feels it is a security hazard in some cases to be driving a car so obviously American. It was decided the most satisfactory way to avoid this situation was for case officer to garage or park his US Army plated car in Salzburg or Innsbruck and to rent a local car there for the period planned for agent meetings.

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- 2 -

Att to KOMA- 28948

6. [] meetings with GRORCHID [] in his US plated car are considered not as secure as desired. [] said he thought the Salzburg safe apartment was not a good substitute since GRORCHID is a local police official, and suggested instead, a return to the previous meeting site of agent's mother's home in Hallein as the best substitute at present. [] felt GRORCHID would probably prefer this to the hazard of meeting in a Salzburg apartment where he may be observed coming or going. [] agreed to the change in meeting sites.

7. [] asked [] about GRORCHID-2 [] what GRORCHID-2 believes becomes of his production and who supplies his ANS 200. monthly salary. [] said he didn't know but would ask GRORCHID-1 about the extent of GRORCHID-2's knowledge and what organization he believes he is working for. (A thorough reading of the ARB's GRORCHID file reveals that GRORCHID-1 recruited GRORCHID-2 in 1951 and GRORCHID-1 has remained GRORCHID-2's only contact. GRORCHID-2 is reported to suspect he works for UPSWING - PRQ Part I attached to EASA-3609, 22 July 1954 - but it is also reported he probably suspects his production is transmitted to a western, possibly American, IS - Project Outline attached to EASA-3262, 13 May 1954. Case officer will question GRORCHID-1 on this point at the next meeting.)

8. [] asked [] when he planned next to contact GRELEND [] said he was going to set up a meeting for the end of August or early September. (GRELEND replied to case officer request for a 20 September meeting by saying he would not be in Austria during the period 13 to 30 September. Case officer will write and request a 10 October meeting.)

9. A discussion of the wartime evacuation of VOB and ARB staff members followed. It was generally agreed ARB's case officers should plan on the possibility of their going south to Innsbruck as the first stage in their evacuation with the probability of continuing on from there to Italy, Greece or North Africa, as the situation dictates. [] felt it was more desirable for ARB's case officers to be in an area where they could best be utilized, i.e. with the Armed Forces concerned with or closest to Austria, rather than in an area far removed from active concern with Austrian UW activities, i.e. England or Spain.

10. [] of VOB and [] talked about the W/T refresher training of the GRDAGENTS and GRGIVING-1, either in progress at VOB, or planned to take place at MOB. [] made a check of VOB's files with negative results on Anton FALTER, GRLAUNCH-2's Innsbruck acquaintance. [] left a request with [] to obtain what information he could on FALTER from GRBAMAL and, if some was available, to pass it on to ARB. [] of VOB and [] discussed [] request for ARB to locate safehouses, safehousekeepers, Live Drops and Accommodation Addresses in Austria to be used under VOB's project GRYEN (ARB had previously provided the names of three persons who may be used in one of these categories.) [] also requested

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6-120-2

SECRET

- 3 -

Att to BOMA- 28948

ARB to locate an individual in Salzburg who could purchase and maintain a car there for VOB and ARB's operational use. [] said he would attempt to supply the requested information. [] requested [] to have GEORCHID check a Salzburg car license plate number for him and also to make a Salzburg Zentralmelddamt check on the Salzburg resident whom [] had recommended as a GRYEN Accommodation Address or Live Drops.

11. In addition, [] asked [] to obtain what information he could from any of ARB's agents on American students in Salzburg and Innsbruck and on students of any nationality there who are studying Russian or plan a trip to Russia. [] said he would work on it.

12. [] and [] agreed [] and [] next VOB co would be 44 and 15 October. (At [] request changed to 26 and 27

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